

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ACTION ITEM
BOARD MEMBER INITIATIVE**

SUBJECT: Resolution Opposing Dominion Virginia Power's
Proposed Routes for the Poland Road 230 kV
Transmission Line and Substation

ELECTION DISTRICT: Blue Ridge, Dulles

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: At the pleasure of the Board

STAFF CONTACTS: Ashley Ziviello, Staff Aide to Supervisor Janet Clarke
Monica N. Filyaw, Legislative Aide to Supervisor
Matthew F. Letourneau

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to oppose Dominion Power Company's proposed routes for the Poland Road 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line Loop and 230-34.5 kV Poland Road Substation.

RECOMMENDATION: Supervisor Clarke and Supervisor Letourneau recommend this resolution be adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND: On May 20, 2015 Dominion Virginia Power (Dominion) filed Case No. PUE-2015-00053, Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company for approval and certification of electric facilities: Poland Road 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line Loop and 230-34.5 kV Poland Road Substation, with the SCC.

Dominion has filed to build a new 230-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and one substation (Poland Road Substation). The overhead line is approximately four miles in length and requires the installation of large monopoles (approximately 110 feet tall). The line also requires 100-foot transmission right-of-way and parallels Route 50 for most all of its length.

Dominion has submitted a proposed route and two alternate routes. The proposed route uses a southern tap point from the existing 230 kV Loudoun-Brambleton Line and runs parallels along the south side of Route 50 along the Stone Ridge community and the parcel for the recently approved Avonlea Town Center. Across the line on the north side of Route 50 is Stonesprings Hospital, scheduled to open in December. The line traverses Route 50 at a point west of Loudoun County Parkway and deviates along MWAA property around Meadows Farm nursery.

The line near its terminus crosses back over Route 50 to enter the proposed Poland Road Substation, located on the south side of Route 50.

The Board approved a motion directing to County Attorney to file a Notice of Participation with the SCC at the July 1, 2015 Board of Supervisors Business meeting.

ISSUES: Loudoun County utility policy seeks to separate major transmission lines from residential communities. However, each of the three Dominion's proposed alignments passes close to the soon-to be opened Stone Springs Hospital and crosses several large properties that will contain new residences and new commercial uses. The Dominion analysis failed to account for numerous existing and approved residential and commercial projects which would be impacted by the proposed alignments. The proposed alignments may prevent the County from realizing the adopted land use and design strategy for the corridor, may impact public lands adjacent to the corridor and could significantly impact the public cost of planned interchanges along the Route 50 corridor.

Residents, businesses and stakeholders have expressed major concerns with Dominion's proposed routes. Dominion did not provide adequate public outreach and discussion with the County and affected property owners, compared to projects of this scope in other jurisdictions, prior to submitting its application to the State Corporation Commission. A single public outreach session was conducted in a location miles from the DVP proposed routes.

The County with the cooperation of interested parties has identified alternative alignments that better correspond with existing and planned land uses, require the same or less right-of-way and cross properties that would be less impacted by the lines and associated easements.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

DRAFT MOTION(S):

1. I move that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the Resolution Opposing Dominion Virginia Power's proposed routes for the Poland Road 230 kV Transmission Line and Substation Project, and direct staff to work with the SCC, Dominion and other applicable stake holders in this effort.

OR

2. I move an alternate motion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Loudoun County's proposed alternative alignments (maps)
3. Dominion Virginia Power's map with proposed routes

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF LOUDOUN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



***Resolution Opposing Dominion Virginia Power's Proposed Routes for the
Poland Road 230 kV Transmission Line and Substation***

WHEREAS, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of utility infrastructure for business growth; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Dominion Virginia Power (DVP) Poland Road 230kV Transmission Line and Substation project is intended to meet the electrical demands of a new business development that has not yet been constructed; and

WHEREAS, County utility policy seeks to separate major transmission lines from residential communities; and

WHEREAS, the project proposed the acquisition of a 230 kV transmission easement, approximately four (4) miles long and 100 feet wide, construction of a new substation and a double-circuit 230 kV line that will feature 110 to 125-foot single shaft galvanized steel poles on alignments adjoining Route 50; and

WHEREAS, each of the three DVP-proposed Route 50 alignments has serious implications for the continued economic viability of small businesses and planned development of properties; which, if crossed by the currently proposed DVP alignments, could significantly impact development resulting in a taking of the whole property and increasing the costs associated with easement acquisition; and

WHEREAS, each of the three DVP-proposed Route 50 alignments passes too close to StoneSprings Hospital which will be opening in December 2015. StoneSprings Hospital will be the second major hospital in Loudoun County. DVP's proposed Route 50 alignments may cause interference with hospital operations and use of its helipad; and

WHEREAS, each of the three DVP-proposed Route 50 alignments cross several large properties approved for mixed use developments, consisting of hundreds of new homes and hundreds of thousands of square feet of commercial floor area; and

WHEREAS, DVP has not accounted for the numerous existing and approved residential and commercial developments and planned road projects impacted by the three proposed Route 50 alignments. DVP has not provided sufficient analysis of the impacts of the three Route 50 alignments and has not sufficiently worked with the County and affected property owners to mitigate these impacts; and

WHEREAS, each of the three DVP proposed Route 50 alignments would prevent the County from realizing the adopted land use and design strategy for the corridor, would impact public lands adjacent to the corridor and would significantly impact the public cost of planned interchanges along the Route 50 corridor, particularly the planned improvements to the intersection of Route 50/Loudoun County Parkway (Route 606); and

WHEREAS, this corridor has infrastructure burdens and challenges which require substantive coordination and cooperation between utility providers, property owners and the County to implement the Countywide Transportation Plan, the County's Comprehensive Plan and proffered improvements. This coordination is critical to completing the transportation network and insuring adequate access to Dulles Airport for its continued success and expansion; and

WHEREAS, DVP did not provide adequate public outreach and discussion with the County and affected property owners, compared to projects of this scope in other jurisdictions, prior to submitting its application to the State Corporation Commission. A single public outreach session was conducted in a location miles from the DVP proposed routes; and

WHEREAS, the County, with the cooperation of affected property owners, has identified alternative alignments that better correspond with existing and planned land uses, require the same or less right-of-way and cross properties that would be less impacted by the lines and associated easements; and

WHEREAS, the County hereby submits three conceptual alignments to provide electrical service to Poland Road site, a map for each County alternative is attached hereto:

County Alternative 1 being from Poland Road north across Route 50 heading west, north of Route 50 and avoiding the quarry (or in the alternative around the quarry on the Dulles Airport property), turning west across Loudoun County Parkway avoiding the planned Route 50/Loudoun County Parkway interchange and then north following the west side of Loudoun County Parkway to an existing 230 kV transmission line at the North Fork of Broad Run;

County Alternative 2 being from Poland Road north across Route 50 heading west, north of Route 50 and avoiding the quarry (or in the alternative around the quarry on the Dulles Airport property), turning west crossing Loudoun County Parkway avoiding the planned Route 50/Loudoun County Parkway interchange, then west onto Dulles West Boulevard (previously called Dulles South Parkway) and then following the Dulles West Boulevard alignment/ROW to tie into the 500 kV transmission line;

County Alternative 3 being from Poland Road across Route 50 north to the quarry and then east along Route 50 as far north of the road as reasonable to the west side of the Cub Run stream valley then south adjacent to the existing business parks, crossing Route 50 to Willard Drive and then east to an existing 230 kV transmission line and an existing substation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on July 15, 2015, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors strongly opposes the three Route 50 alignments proposed by Dominion Virginia Power to serve the Poland Road 230 kV Transmission Line and Substation Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors request the State Corporation Commission direct Dominion Virginia Power to submit an evaluation of the County alternative alignments and for Dominion Virginia Power to work with the County and affected property owners to insure that all routing alternatives accurately reflects proposed and existing development, planned infrastructure improvements, transportation networks and community development standards.

Scott K. York, Chairman, At-Large

Ralph Buona, Vice Chair, Ashburn District

Geary M. Higgins, Catoclin District

Suzanne M. Volpe, Algonkian District

Matthew F. Letourneau, Dulles District

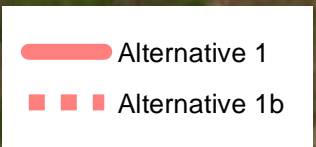
Janet S. Clarke, Blue Ridge District

Kenneth D. Reid, Leesburg District

Shawn M. Williams, Broad Run District

Eugene A. Delgaudio, Sterling District

Alternative 1 & 1b



Washington Dulles
International Airport

50

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Alternative 2 & 2b

Alternative 2
Alternative 2b

Washington Dulles
International Airport

50

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Alternative 3

Alternative 3

